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DEAD OR ALIVE!

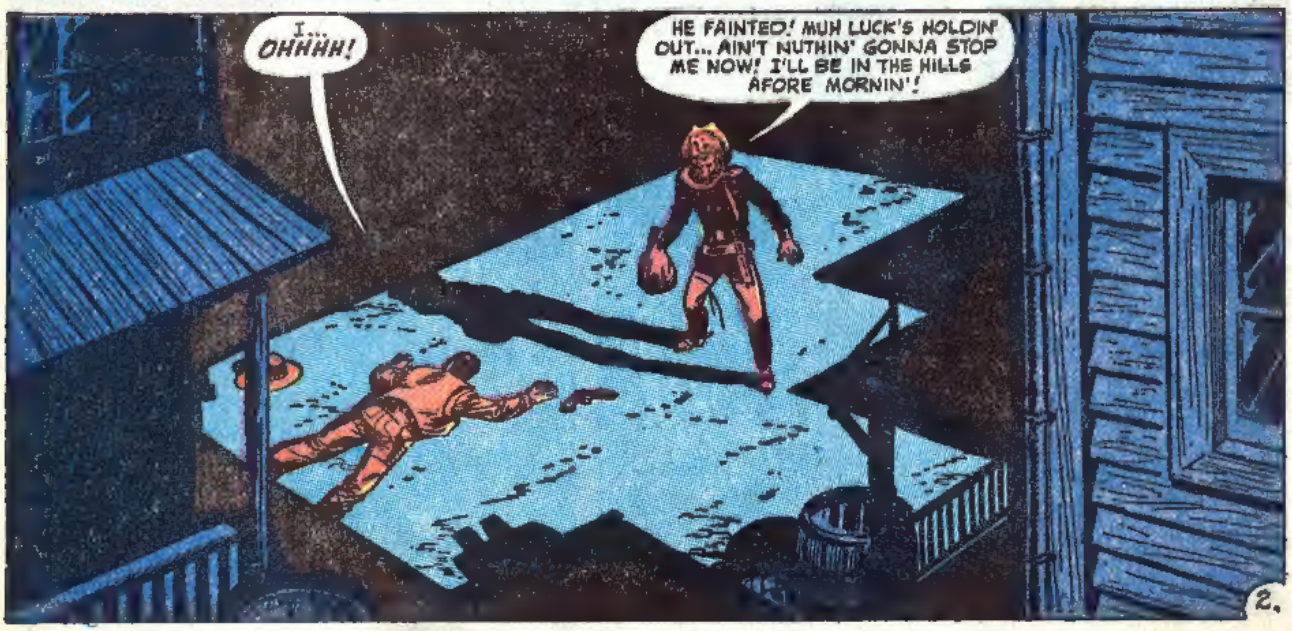
SCENE: THE DIMLY-LIT ALLEY OUTSIDE THE FARGO NATIONAL BANK!
CHARACTERS: DEPUTY SHERIFF, TOM NESBITT AND A MAN IN THE SHADOWS!
RESULT: DRAMA!
WHAT ARE YUH DOIN' IN THAT ALLEY NEAR THE BANK, HOMBRE? RAISE YORE ARMS AND TURN AROUND SLOW...
FARGO NATIONAL BANK
DEPUTY
by Stan Lee & Joe Sinnott
MOVING SWIFTLY, SILENTLY, THE MAN IN THE SHADOWS WHIRLED ABOUT, DRAWING HIS GUN AND FIRING AS HE DID SO...
AIN'T NOBODY TAKIN' CRAG YURDON!
YURDON... YUH FOOL ... I... UGH...
BAM!

I ALMOST HAD THIS LOCK ALL FILED DOWN... AIN'T GONNA LET NO MEDDLIN' DEPUTY STOP ME NOW!
BANK

HERE IT IS... JUST A-WAITIN' FOR ME! JUST-LIKE I BEEN PLANNIN' IT!

MEANWHILE... JUST OUTSIDE THE BANK...
JUST - A LITTLE-BIT-FURTHER!
HOTEL

DROP THAT MONEY, YURDON!
HOW'D YOU GET HERE?


I... OHHHH!
HE FAINTED! MUH LUCK'S HOLDIN' OUT... AIN'T NUTHIN' GONNA STOP ME NOW! I'LL BE IN THE HILLS AFORE MORNIN'!

WITHIN BRIEF MINUTES, THE BANK ROBBER WAS FLEEING WITH HIS LOOT...

AND, AS THE SUN ROSE THE NEXT MORNING...

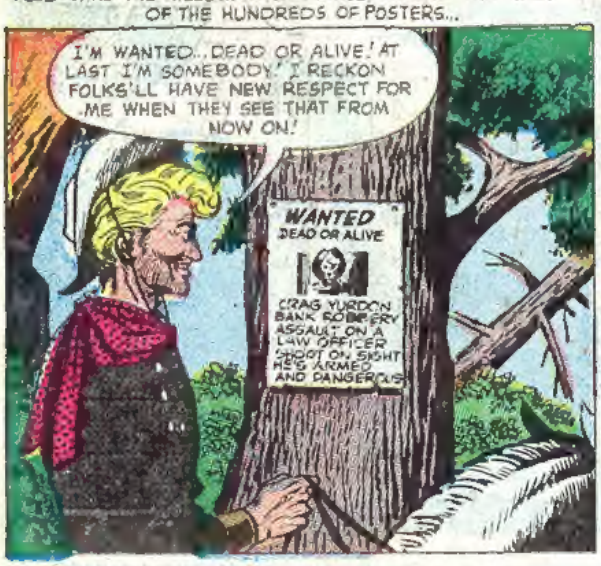
HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT... JUST WEAK FROM LOSS OF BLOOD!
IT... WUZ... CRAG... CRAG YURDON!
TAKE IT EASY, TOM BOY... WE'LL GIT THE BUSHWHACKIN' COYOTE, I SWEAR IT!

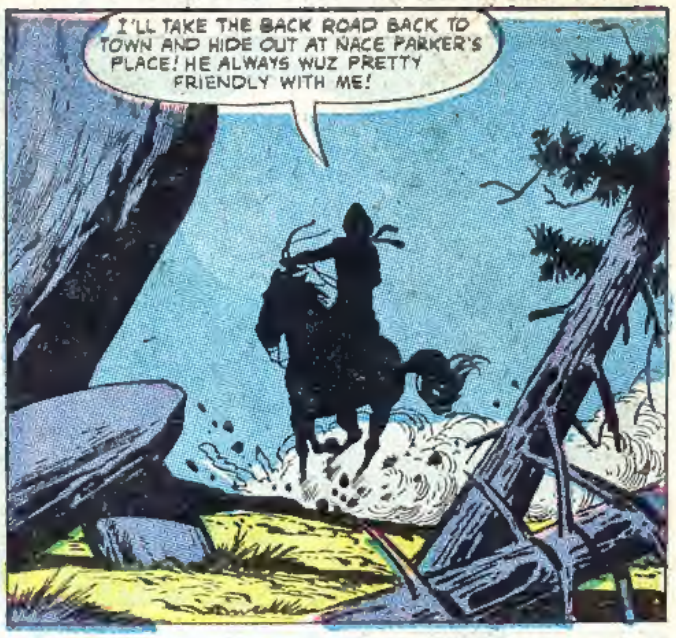
IN A SHORT WHILE, A POSSE WAS ORGANIZED... ARMED, PROVISIONED, AND READY FOR ACTION...

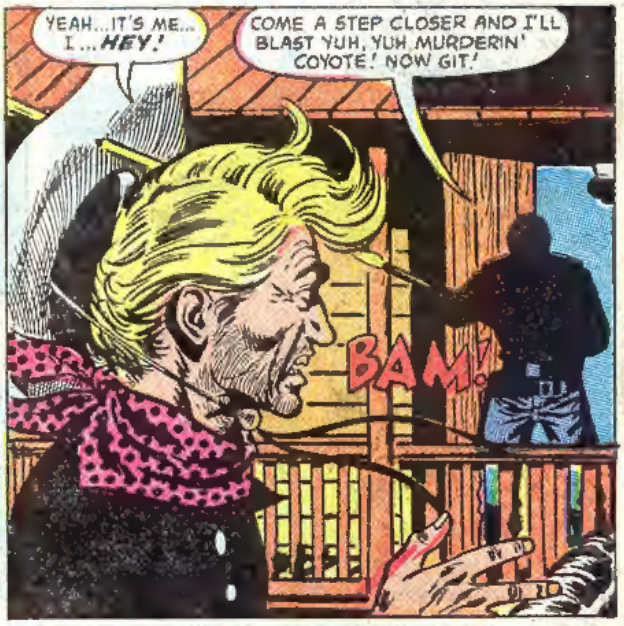
AND WHILE THE POSSE PREPARED TO COMB THE HILLS, IN THE LOCAL PRINTING OFFICE, ANOTHER MAN WAS WORKING AT TOP SPEED...

MEANWHILE, HIGH IN THE HILLS SURROUNDING FARGO, A PAIR OF COLD, HARD EYES SCANNED THE HORIZON...

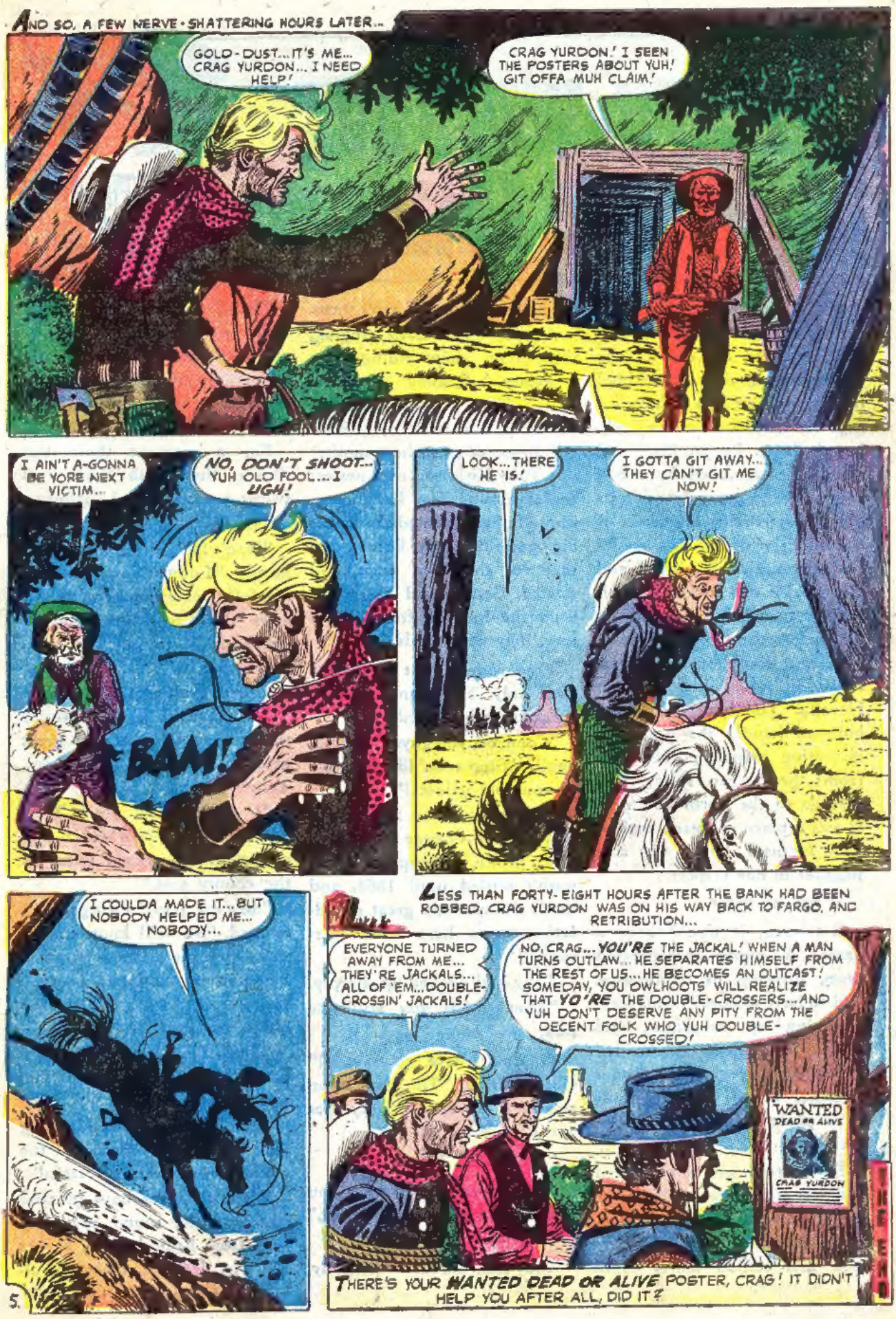
DUCKING, DODGING, BACK-TRACKING FOR HOURS ON END, UNTIL TIME SEEMED TO LOSE ITS MEANING, CRAG YURDON FLED THRU THE HILLS... WHEN FINALLY HE SAW THE FIRST OF THE HUNDREDS OF POSTERS...


I'M WANTED... DEAD OR ALIVE! AT LAST I'M SOMEBODY! I RECKON FOLKS'LL HAVE NEW RESPECT FOR ME WHEN THEY SEE THAT FROM NOW ON!
WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE
CRAG YURDON
BANK ROBBERY
ASSAULT ON A LAW OFFICER
SHOOT ON SIGHT
HE'S ARMED AND DANGEROUS





WHAT'LL I DO... THE POSSE'S HOT ON MY TRAIL... I CAN'T GO THRU TOWN... I CAN'T HEAD FER THE HILLS AGAIN! I KNOW ... I'LL FIND GOLD-DUST JONES... HE MUST BE AT HIS CLAIM, OVER YONDER... I DONE HIM A FAVOR ONCE...


AND SO, A FEW NERVE-SHATTERING HOURS LATER...
GOLD-DUST... IT'S ME... CRAG YURDON... I NEED HELP!
CRAG YURDON! I SEEN THE POSTERS ABOUT YUH! GIT OFFA MUH CLAIM!
I AIN'T A-GONNA BE YORE NEXT VICTIM...
NO, DON'T SHOOT... YUH OLD FOOL... I UGH!
BAM!
LOOK... THERE HE IS!
I GOTTA GIT AWAY... THEY CAN'T GIT ME NOW!
I COULDA MADE IT... BUT NOBODY HELPED ME... NOBODY...
LESS THAN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS AFTER THE BANK HAD BEEN ROBBED, CRAG YURDON WAS ON HIS WAY BACK TO FARGO, AND RETRIBUTION...
EVERYONE TURNED AWAY FROM ME... THEY'RE JACKALS... ALL OF 'EM... DOUBLE-CROSSIN' JACKALS!
NO, CRAG... YOU'RE THE JACKAL! WHEN A MAN TURNS OUTLAW... HE SEPARATES HIMSELF FROM THE REST OF US... HE BECOMES AN OUTCAST! SOMEDAY, YOU OWLHOOTS WILL REALIZE THAT YO'RE THE DOUBLE-CROSSERS... AND YUH DON'T DESERVE ANY PITY FROM THE DECENT FOLK WHO YUH DOUBLE-CROSSED!
WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE
CRAG YURDON
THE END
THERE'S YOUR WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE POSTER, CRAG! IT DIDN'T HELP YOU AFTER ALL, DID IT?

TOWN WITHOUT A NAME

OVER the rolling rises came the sound of the school bell, signaling the end of the classes for the day. The school building was set in a little valley near the headwaters of the Buckboard River. Large, high and wooden, surmounted by a bell tower, it had nurtured, within its old wooden walls, hundreds of the children of the two neighboring counties, Wickford and Temple. At one end of the valley was a small but growing settlement. At the other end, a railroad spur crept through a pass from the main line through Nevada. The spur had been built to handle the gradually increasing shipments of cattle from the larger valley and spreads to the north and east. It was a place of peace, and of busy industry, but it was also singular in one respect.

It had no name.

But soon, it would have a name. A newly incorporated town, growing in importance, had to have a name. Firms were springing up overnight, and their letterheads demanded something more than the distant terminal of the railroad spur as a place of destination and location.

So the town was to be named after its oldest family. Whoever could prove that his or her ancestor had discovered the valley and first settled there, could have the town named after them.

As the bell ceased ringing, three boys came riding over a grassy hill, away from the school. They were all fourteen years old. One was George Randolph, son of a rancher; another was Toby Kirk, son of a nester; the third was Tim Langhorne, whose father operated the town's big general store. Before the race for the town name had started, George and Toby had been the best of friends. But now, they were rivals.

They rode almost in silence, with only Tim Langhorne to break in with a word.

"Come on, you guys!" he said, finally. "Stop actin' like a couple of sour old galoots!"

"I'm sayin' *our* family got here *first!*" George Randolph said, firmly. "Temple County wasn't settled until 1868, and that's the year my great grandfather came here from Missouri!"

Toby Kirk looked up sharply.

"That's what *you* say!" he said.

"I don't have to say it!" George cried. "The date is on record at Temple County seat and I can prove it!"

"We'll see," Toby said.

"I suppose *your* family can prove you were here that early," George said dubiously.

Toby smiled a bit sarcastically.

"Well, we can! My family never were ranchers, but we came out here in 1868 too, and my great grandpop went to work for the county buildin' roads. *That's* on record!"

For a moment there was silence, then both boys' eyes swung toward Tim Langhorne.

Tim laughed.

"Don't look at me that way!" he said. "I don't know what year *my* folks came out here. It was after the Civil War, but *we aren't* tryin' to get the town named for us!"

George said, a little peevishly, "Well, then, it boils down to what month in 1868 your great grandfather came out here, Toby!"

"I don't know yet," Toby admitted. "My pop's lookin' that all up in the record today at the county seat."

"So's my pop," George commented. "So we'll know tomorrow, when the decision is made. I reckon my family . . . maybe yours, too, Toby . . . are the oldest settlers here."

"Well, then, both of you can get back to bein' pardners," Tim said persuasively.

Both his friends tried looking amiably at each other, but the attempt wasn't very successful.

Then all three boys glanced back, as the sound of hoofs rose from behind them. It was old Mr. Jackson, their school-

CONTINUED BEFORE LAST STORY

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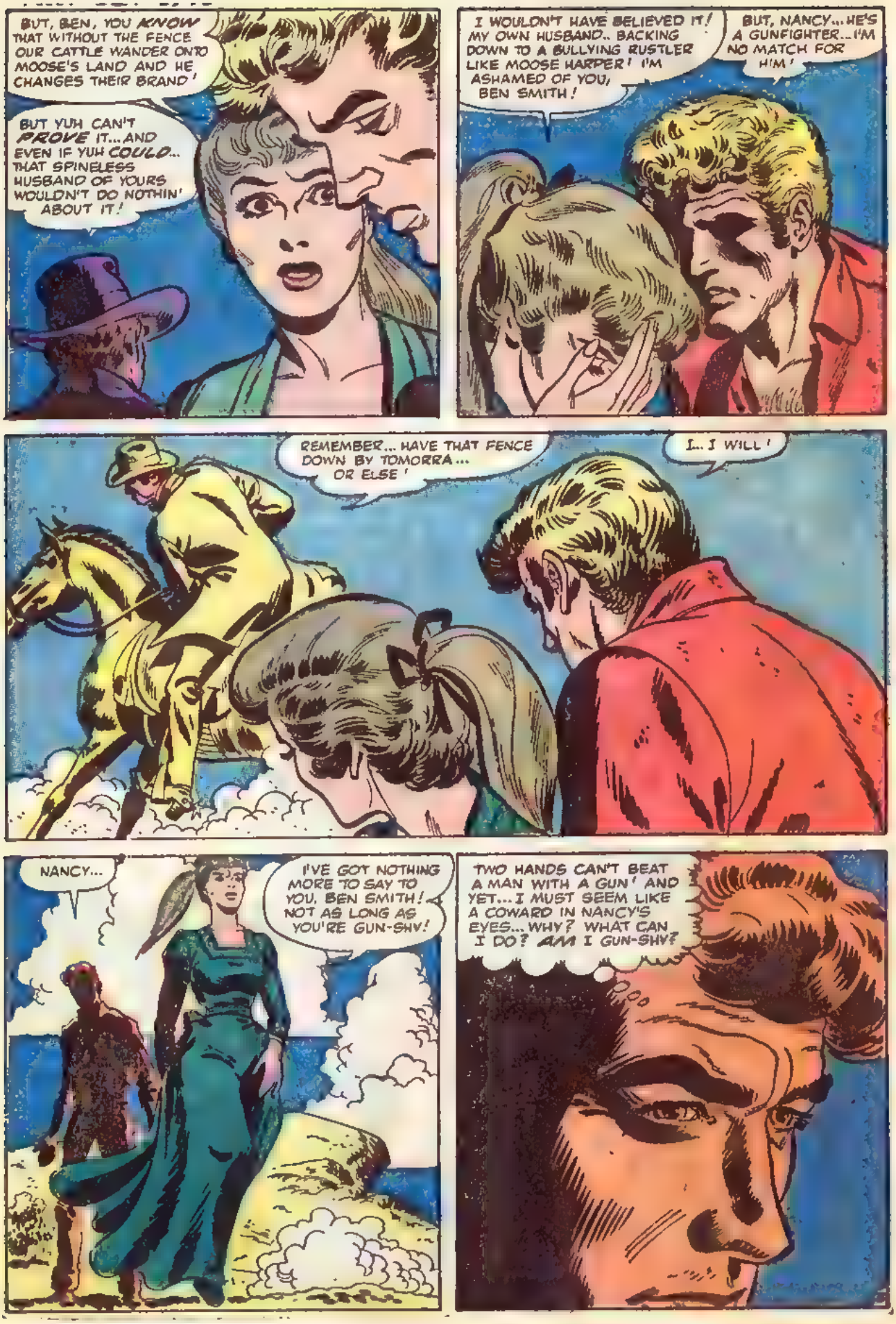
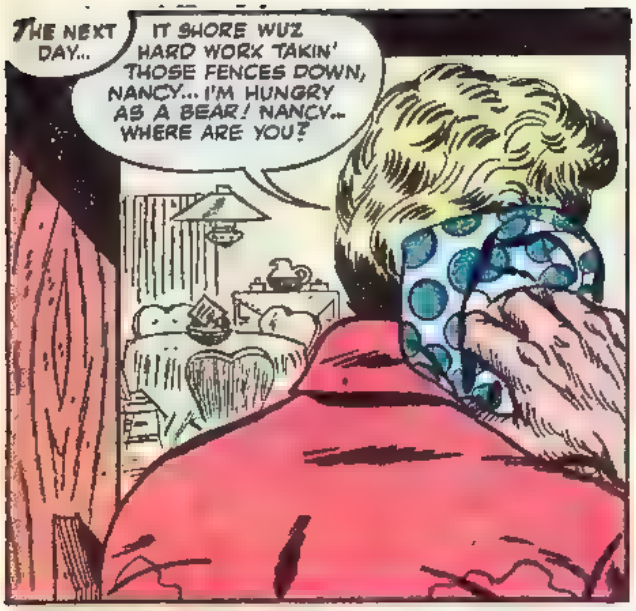
PUT DOWN THAT AX, BEN SMITH! I WANT TO TALK TO YUH!
MOOSE HARPER! I GOT NO BUSINESS WITH THE LIKES OF YOU... AND I'M BUSY!
by Stan Lee & John Severin
LYDY

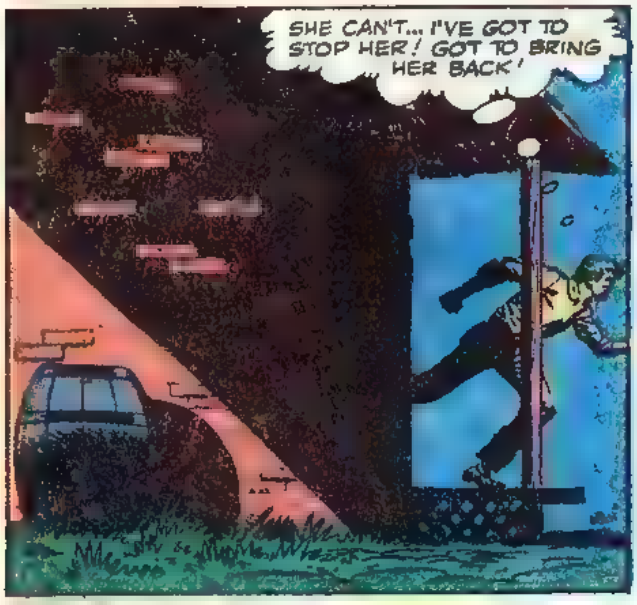
GUN-SHY!

MOOSE HARPER WAS BIG, TOUGH AND CRUEL! HE WAS THE STRONGEST MAN IN DADE COUNTY AS WELL AS THE FASTEST ON THE DRAW... AND HE NEVER LET ANYONE FORGET IT!

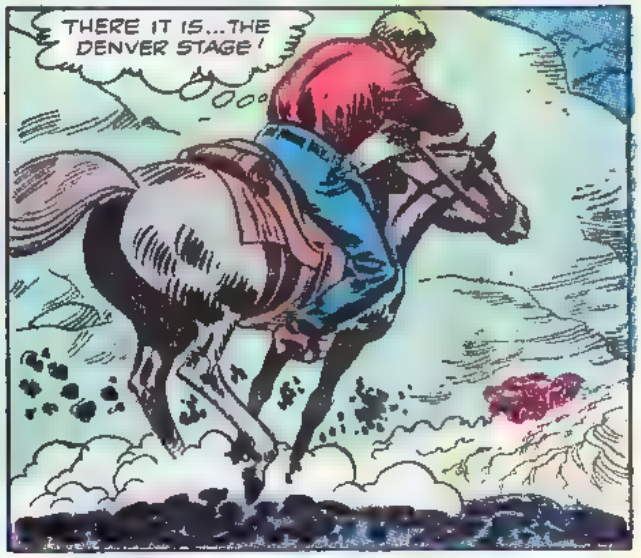
YOU CAN'T DO THAT, ON MY OWN RANCH! I'LL—
YUH'LL WHAT? DO YUH WANNA DRAW AGAINST ME? GO AHEAD, BEN!
I DON'T PUT ANY STOCK IN GUNS! YUH KNOW I DON'T WEAR ANY!
SHORE I DO. I KNOW LOTS OF HOMBRES WHO DON'T TOTE ANY HARDWARE! AND YUH WANNA KNOW WHY THEY DON'T? BECAUSE THEY'RE YELLA... JUST LIKE YOU!
BEN, WHAT'S WRONG, DEAR? WHAT DOES MOOSE HARPER WANT HERE?
HOWDY, MISSUS SMITH! NOTHIN' TO WORRY ABOUT... I'M JUST PAYIN' A LITTLE SOCIAL CALL!
I CAME TO TELL YORE HUSBAND THAT I DON'T LIKE THE FENCE HE PUT UP BETWEEN HIS LAND AND MINE! I WANT IT DOWN BY TOMORROW, OR I'LL BREAK IT DOWN!
BUT, YOU CAN'T!
YORE WIFE SAYS I CAN'T, BEN WHAT DO YOU SAY?
I...I RECKON I'LL TAKE THE FENCE DOWN.

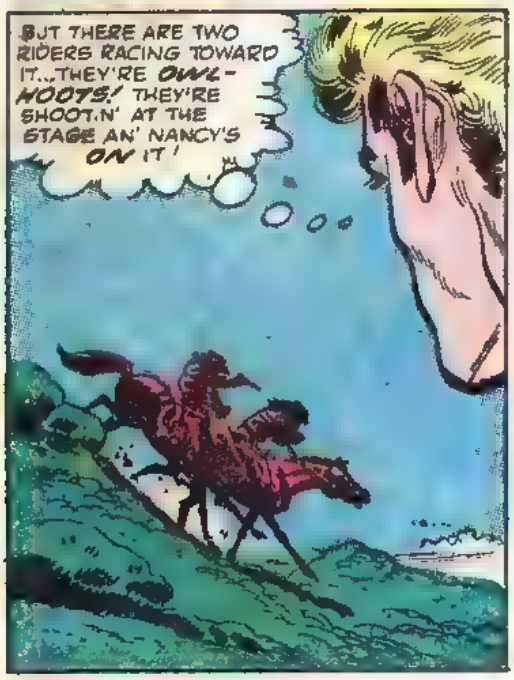

BUT, BEN, YOU KNOW THAT WITHOUT THE FENCE OUR CATTLE WANDER ONTO MOOSE'S LAND AND HE CHANGES THEIR BRAND!
BUT YUH CAN'T PROVE IT... AND EVEN IF YUH COULD... THAT SPINELESS HUSBAND OF YOURS WOULDN'T DO NOTHIN' ABOUT IT!
I WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED IT! MY OWN HUSBAND.. BACKING DOWN TO A BULLYING RUSTLER LIKE MOOSE HARPER! I'M ASHAMED OF YOU, BEN SMITH!
BUT, NANCY... HE'S A GUNFIGHTER... I'M NO MATCH FOR HIM!
REMEMBER... HAVE THAT FENCE DOWN BY TOMORRA... OR ELSE!
I... I WILL!
NANCY...
I'VE GOT NOTHING MORE TO SAY TO YOU, BEN SMITH! NOT AS LONG AS YOU'RE GUN-SHY!
TWO HANDS CAN'T BEAT A MAN WITH A GUN! AND YET... I MUST SEEM LIKE A COWARD IN NANCY'S EYES... WHY? WHAT CAN I DO? AM I GUN-SHY?





FOR TWO HOURS, BEN SMITH RODE LIKE A DEMON...





UNARMED, AND UNPROTECTED, RIDING MADLY LIKE A MAN POSSESSED, BEN SMITH RACED TOWARD THE TWO MASKED STAGE ROBBERS..

THE FIRST SHOT FIRED BY THE OWLHOOTS IMBEDDED ITSELF IN BEN'S SHOULDER... BUT STILL HE CAME ON...
GOT TO STOP THEM. GOT TO
HE DON'T STOP!
UNNERVED BY THE SIGHT OF A MAN RACING RIGHT INTO THE JAWS OF CERTAIN DEATH, THE OUTLAWS' AIM WAS SHAKY AND IN A MATTER OF SECONDS, BEN SMITH HAD RIDDEN THRU THE HAIL OF BULLETS AND...
GOT YUH!
ALMOST BEFORE THE STUNNED GUNMAN COULD REACH THE GROUND, BEN HAD RIPPED THE GUN FROM HIS LIMP FINGERS AND POINTED IT AT THE OTHER ASTONISHED OUTLAW!
AIN'T NO ONE GONNA HURT MY NANCY...
YUH SAVED THE STAGE BOY... I NEVER SEEN SUCH COURAGE!
MOOSE HARPER.. I RECKON THEY EVENS US UP!
BEN... OH, BEN.
I HOPED AND PRAYED YOU'D COME AFTER ME, BEN, BUT I DIDN'T DARE HOPE YOU'D STOP BEIN' GUN-SHY, TOO!
WHO STOPPED? I STILL DON'T BELIEVE IN GUN-FIGHTIN', DARLIN'... MEBBE NOW YOU'LL SEE THAT A HOMBRE CAN BE GUN-SHY WITHOUT BEING A COWARD!
THE END
AND FROM THE LOOKS OF THINGS... WE'D SAY NANCY IS PRETTY WELL CONVINCED!!!

Draw me

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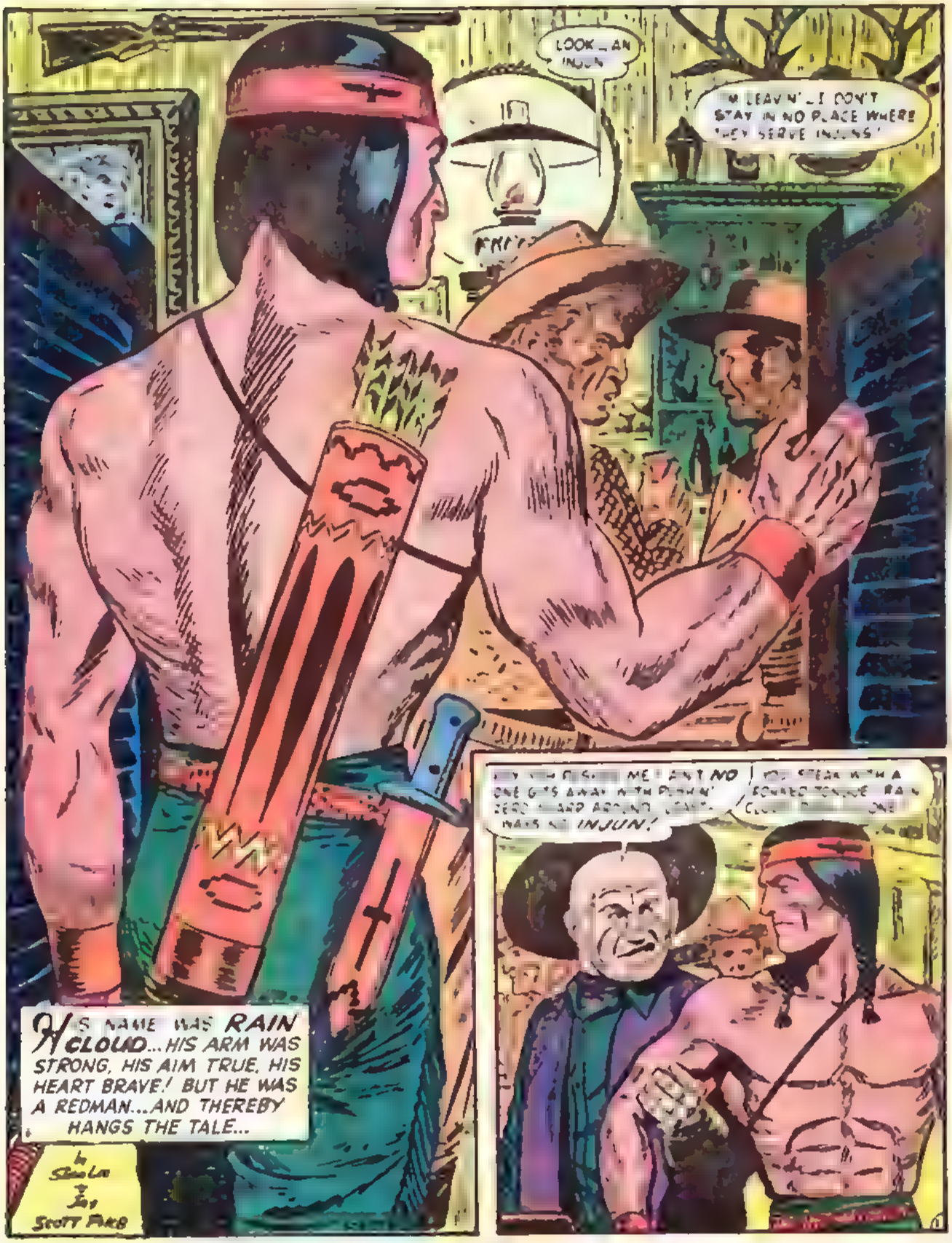
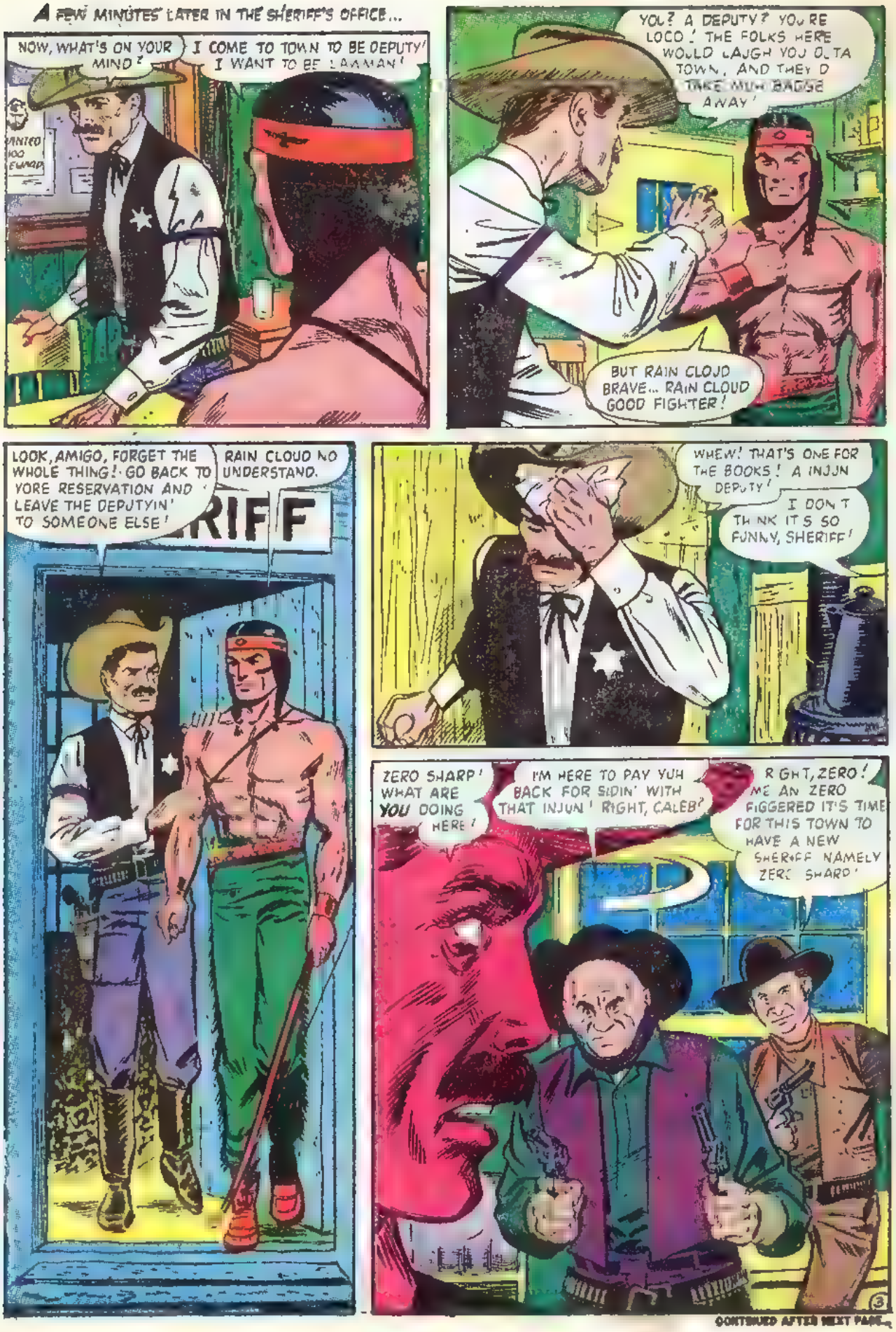
THE DEPUTY!


LOOK—AN INJUN
NO LEAVIN'—I DON'T STAY IN NO PLACE WHERE THEY SERVE INJUNS!
HIS NAME WAS RAIN CLOUD...HIS ARM WAS STRONG, HIS AIM TRUE, HIS HEART BRAVE! BUT HE WAS A REDMAN...AND THEREBY HANGS THE TALE...
by Stan Lee & Jay, Scott Pike
INJUN!

CALLIN' ME A LIAR, ARE YA? STAND BACK GIMME ROOM! I'M GONNA DRAW!
NO GUN, EH? THAT'S YORE TOUGH LUCK... THAT AIN'T GONNA STOP ME FROM SHOOTIN' YUH!
YES IT IS, SHARP! FREEZE!
RAIN CLOUD HAS NO GUN!
JUST 'CAUSE YUH DON'T LIKE A MAN, AIN'T NO EXCUSE FOR GUNNIN' HIM DOWN! NOW DROP YORE GUN BELT!
YO'RE CALLIN' THE TURN THIS TIME, SHERIFF... BUT INJUNS AIN'T MEN... THEY'RE JUST INJUNS!
YOU'D BETTER LEAVE TOWN PRONTO, MISTER!
NO! RAIN CLOUD WILL TALK TO SHERIFF!
ALL RIGHT! FOLLOW ME TO MY OFFICE!
RAIN CLOUD COMES!
I AIN'T FORGETTIN THIS, SHERIFF!


A FEW MINUTES LATER IN THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE...
NOW, WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
I COME TO TOWN TO BE DEPUTY! I WANT TO BE LAWMAN!
YOU? A DEPUTY? YOU'RE LOCO! THE FOLKS HERE WOULD LAUGH YOU OUTA TOWN, AND THEY'D TAKE MUH BADGE AWAY!
BUT RAIN CLOUD BRAVE... RAIN CLOUD GOOD FIGHTER!
LOOK, AMIGO, FORGET THE WHOLE THING! GO BACK TO YORE RESERVATION AND LEAVE THE DEPUTYIN' TO SOMEONE ELSE!
RAIN CLOUD NO UNDERSTAND.
WHEW! THAT'S ONE FOR THE BOOKS! A INJUN DEPUTY!
I DON'T THINK IT'S SO FUNNY, SHERIFF!
ZERO SHARP! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!
I'M HERE TO PAY YUH BACK FOR SIDIN' WITH THAT INJUN! RIGHT, CALEB?
RIGHT, ZERO! ME AN ZERO FIGGERED IT'S TIME FOR THIS TOWN TO HAVE A NEW SHERIFF NAMELY ZERO SHARP!
3

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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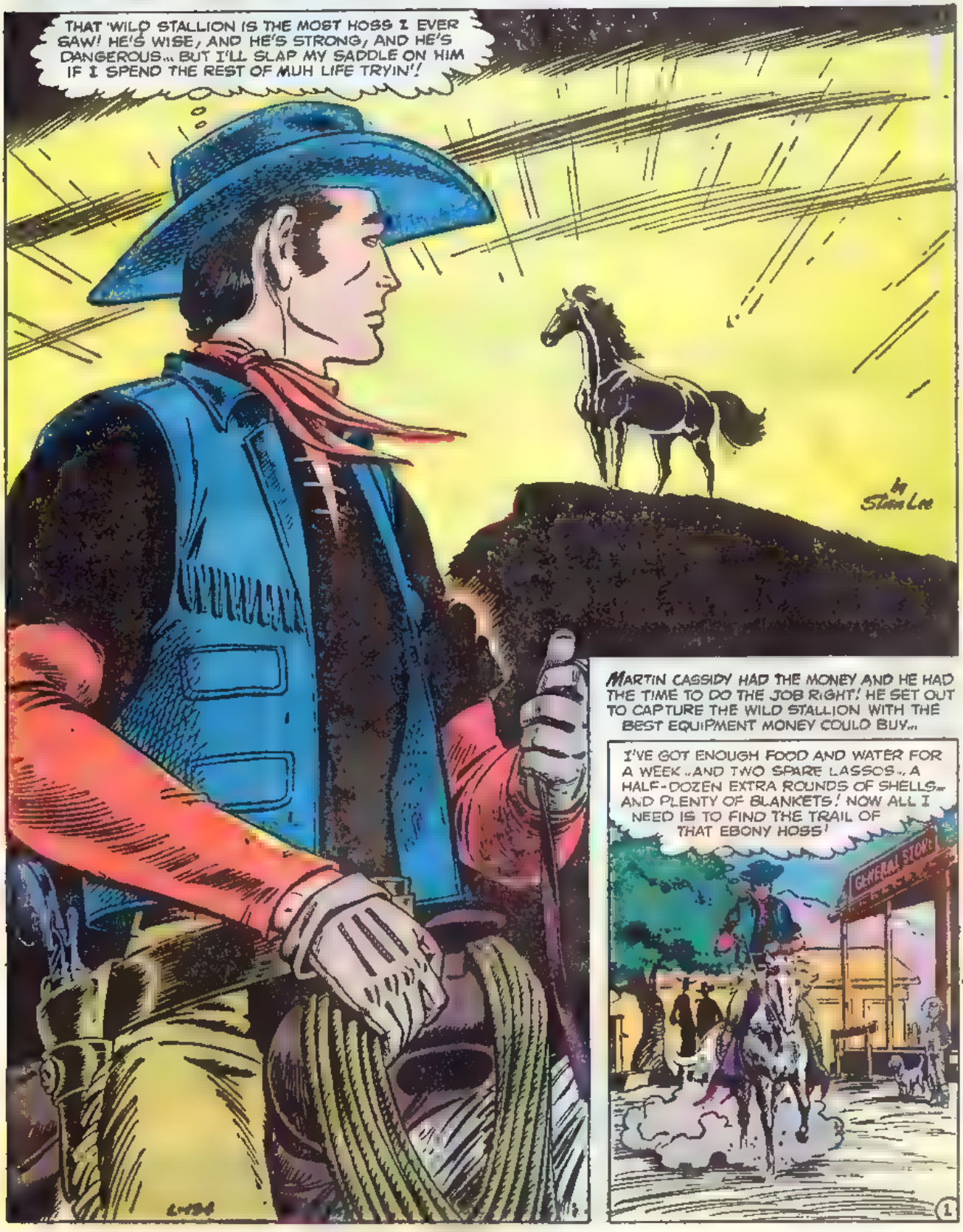
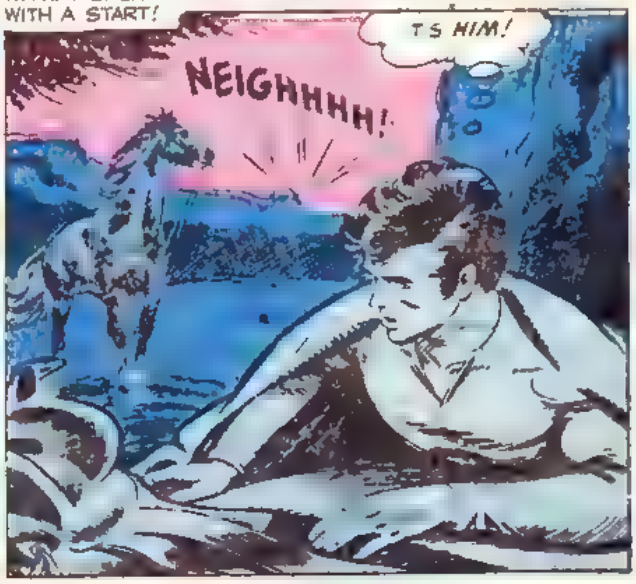
GIT OUTA MY OFFICE! AS LONG AS I LIVE, I'LL NEVER RESIGN!
BUT THAT'S JUST IT, SHERIFF! YUH AIN'T A-GONNA LIVE MUCH LONGER!
THAT'S RIGHT... SOMEONE'S GONNA SHOOT YUH... ME AN' CALEB WILL FIND YORE BODY AN' I'LL OFFER TO BECOME SHERIFF... AN' HUNT DOWN THE KILLER! NEAT, HUH?
SHERIFF
NOW STAND STILL, SHERIFF THIS WON'T HURT MUCH!
BUT AT THAT SPLIT-SECOND, A THREE-FEATHERED SHAFT OF SILENT VENGEANCE FOUND ITS MARK...
UGH!
I'LL GET YUH, REDSKIN!
NO YOU WON'T!
THEY FOUND THE BODY OF RAIN CLOUD IN THE STREET NEXT TO THE SHERIFF'S WINDOW A FEW MINUTES LATER... WITH A SMILE ON HIS DEAD LIPS... AS THOUGH PROUD OF A JOB WELL DONE...
THAT'S ABOUT ALL THERE IS TO OUR LITTLE TALE, EXCEPT TO ADD THAT A SMALL CEMETERY IS STILL STANDING AT THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN, AN' IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY AT ONE OF THE TOMBSTONES, YOU'LL SEE A SHINY BADGE ON IT... A BADGE WHICH WILL ALWAYS GLEAM WITH NEWLY-APPLIED POLISH AS LONG AS ONE REMAINING MAN REMEMBERS THE STORY OF RAIN CLOUD, THE REDMAN WHO WANTED TO BE DEPUTY!
TAKE A GOOD LOOK AT 'IM, GENTS! WE SHOULD BE MIGHTY PROUD OF HIM... HE'S THE HOMBRE YUH WOULDN'T DRINK WITH... AN' THE ONE I WOULDN'T HIRE AS A DEPUTY!
HERE LIES RAIN CLOUD THE BEST DEPUTY THIS TOWN EVER HAD.
THE END

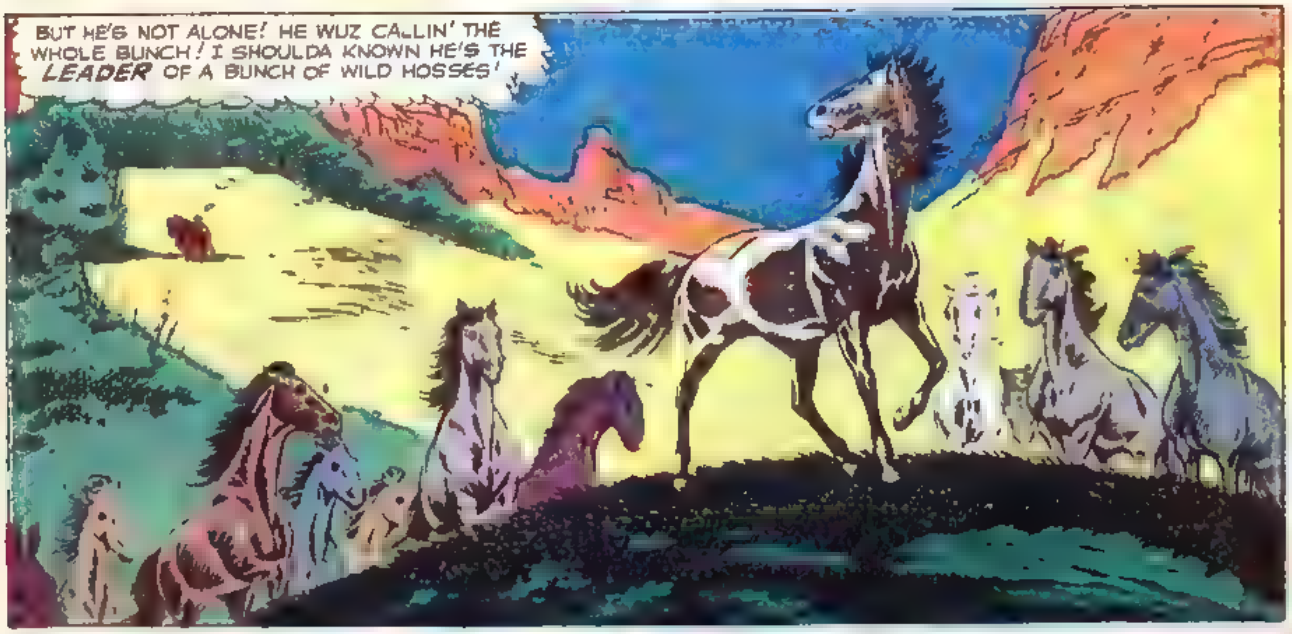
EVER SINCE MARTIN CASSIDY FIRST LAID EYES ON THE MAGNIFICENT, WILD BLACK STALLION, HE KNEW HE'D NEVER REST UNTIL HE HAD CAPTURED AND TAMED HIM!

HOOFS of DOOM!

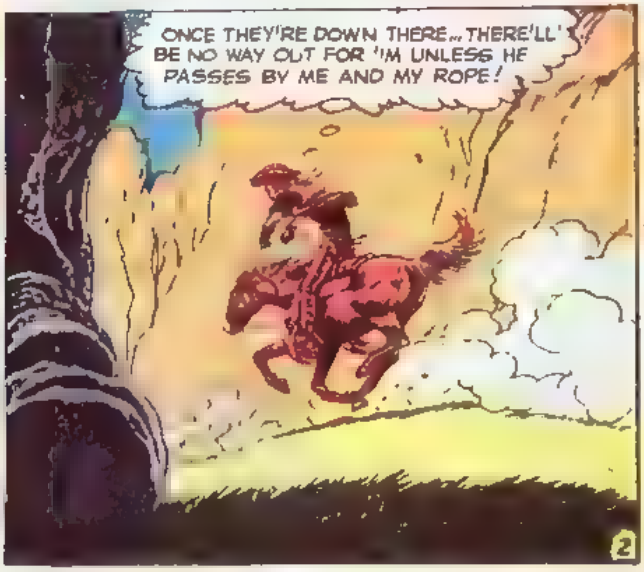

THAT WILD STALLION IS THE MOST HOSS I EVER SAW! HE'S WISE, AND HE'S STRONG, AND HE'S DANGEROUS... BUT I'LL SLAP MY SADDLE ON HIM IF I SPEND THE REST OF MUH LIFE TRYIN'!
by Stan Lee
MARTIN CASSIDY HAD THE MONEY AND HE HAD THE TIME TO DO THE JOB RIGHT! HE SET OUT TO CAPTURE THE WILD STALLION WITH THE BEST EQUIPMENT MONEY COULD BUY...
I'VE GOT ENOUGH FOOD AND WATER FOR A WEEK.. AND TWO SPARE LASSOS.. A HALF-DOZEN EXTRA ROUNDS OF SHELLS... AND PLENTY OF BLANKETS! NOW ALL I NEED IS TO FIND THE TRAIL OF THAT EBONY HOSS!
GENERAL STORE
1

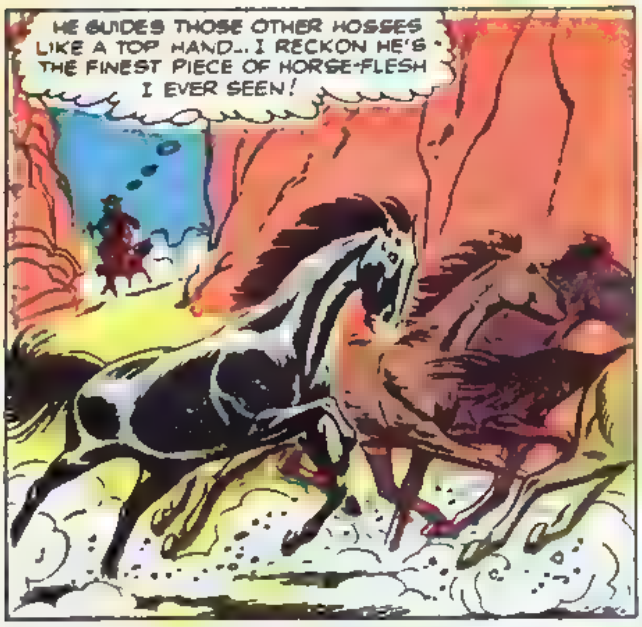
THE HILLS WERE WILD AND SAVAGE AND UNEXPLORED... AND MARTIN CASSIDY WAS ONLY ONE MAN! HIS FIRST DAY AND NIGHT WERE SPENT WITHOUT EVEN A SIGN OF THE STALLION!
I'LL BED DOWN FOR THE NIGHT AND START FRESH IN THE MORNIN'!

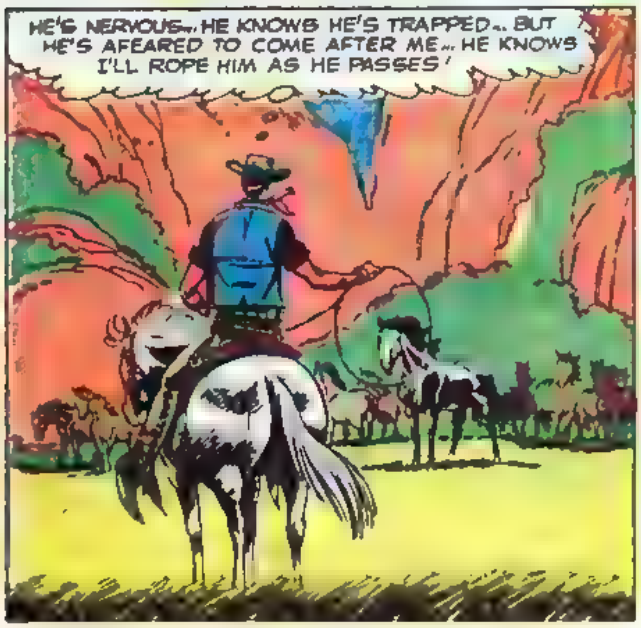

BUT JUST AS DAWN WAS BREAKING, A LOUD, PIERCING WHINNY SPLIT THE SILENCE AND MARTIN CASSIDY WOKE WITH A START!
NEIGHHHH!
IT'S HIM!

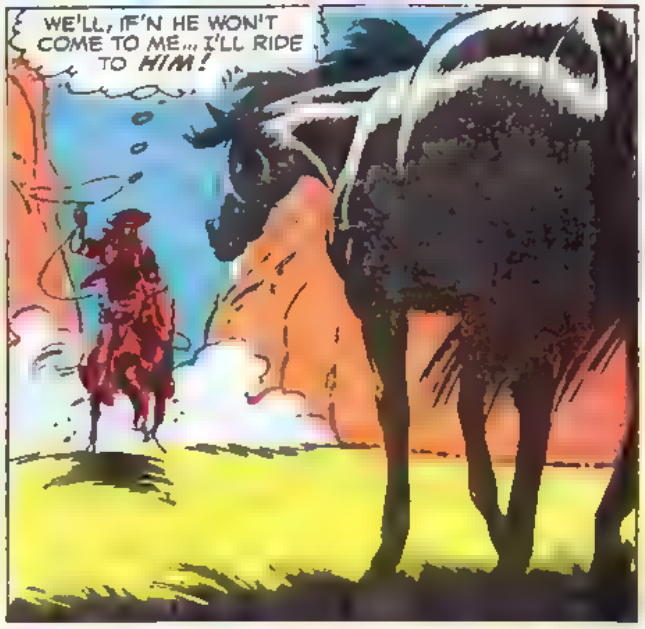

BUT HE'S NOT ALONE! HE WUZ CALLIN' THE WHOLE BUNCH! I SHOULDA KNOWN HE'S THE LEADER OF A BUNCH OF WILD HOSSES!

THERE THEY GO, A-RUNNIN' INTO THAT VALLEY! THIS IS MUH CHANCE TO TRAP HIM

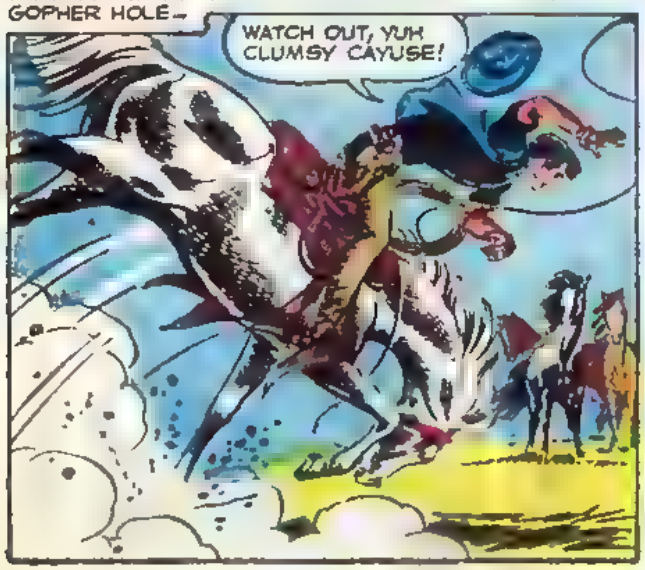

EVERY NERVE TAUT, EVERY MUSCLE TREMBLING WITH EXCITEMENT, MARTIN CASSIDY FOLLOWED THE THUNDERING BUNCH OF HORSES INTO THE BLIND CANYON BELOW!
ONCE THEY'RE DOWN THERE... THERE'LL BE NO WAY OUT FOR 'IM UNLESS HE PASSES BY ME AND MY ROPE!
2

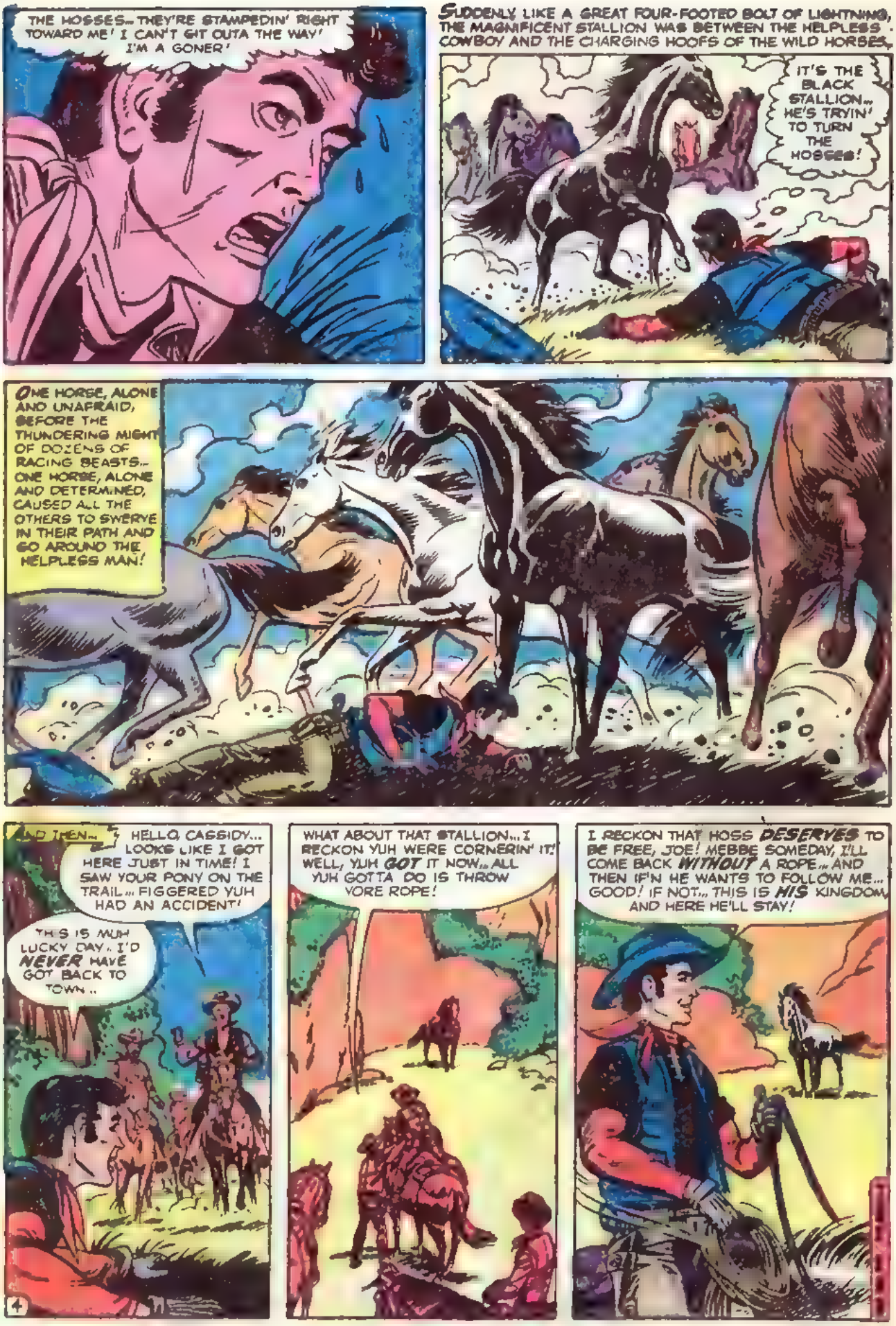






BUT THE BEST-LAID PLANS OFT ARE RUINED BY AN UNEXPECTED ACCIDENT.. SO IT WAS WITH MARTIN CASSIDY WHEN HIS CAPABLE LITTLE COW PONY STEPPED INTO A GOPHER HOLE—




THE HOSSES... THEY'RE STAMPEDIN' RIGHT TOWARD ME! I CAN'T GIT OUTA THE WAY! I'M A GONER!
SUDDENLY LIKE A GREAT FOUR-FOOTED BOLT OF LIGHTNING, THE MAGNIFICENT STALLION WAS BETWEEN THE HELPLESS COWBOY AND THE CHARGING HOOFS OF THE WILD HORSES.
IT'S THE BLACK STALLION... HE'S TRYIN' TO TURN THE HOSSES!
ONE HORSE, ALONE AND UNAFRAID, BEFORE THE THUNDERING MIGHT OF DOZENS OF RACING BEASTS... ONE HORSE, ALONE AND DETERMINED, CAUSED ALL THE OTHERS TO SWERVE IN THEIR PATH AND GO AROUND THE HELPLESS MAN!
AND THEN...
HELLO, CASSIDY... LOOKS LIKE I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME! I SAW YOUR PONY ON THE TRAIL... FIGGERED YUH HAD AN ACCIDENT!
THIS IS MUH LUCKY DAY. I'D NEVER HAVE GOT BACK TO TOWN...
WHAT ABOUT THAT STALLION... I RECKON YUH WERE CORNERIN' IT! WELL, YUH GOT IT NOW... ALL YUH GOTTA DO IS THROW YORE ROPE!
I RECKON THAT HOSS DESERVES TO BE FREE, JOE! MEBBE SOMEDAY, I'LL COME BACK WITHOUT A ROPE... AND THEN IF'N HE WANTS TO FOLLOW ME... GOOD! IF NOT... THIS IS HIS KINGDOM, AND HERE HE'LL STAY!
4

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CONTINUED

teacher, mounted on his sway-backed cayuse and going at a canter. He drew rein as he came up to them.

"Afternoon, Mr. Jackson," all three boys said simultaneously.

The old schoolteacher's eyes twinkled.

"Wanted to speak to you boys," he said. "It's plumb plain that you, George, and you, Toby, are carryin' on like a couple of sorehead lobos. I don't mind much what you do outside of class, but it's beginnin' to affect your readin', writin' and 'rithmetic! Besides, it's loco for a couple of good friends to get het up at each other because their grandpappies got out here in the same year."

Both George and Toby glanced down at the ground, unable to look Mr. Jackson in the eye.

"Besides . . ." And had they been looking, they'd have seen his eyes twinkle again, as Tim Langhorne did. "I wouldn't put too much trust in county records. They aren't the only records there are!"

"Huh?" George Randolph's head jerked up, as did Toby Kirk's. "What's that, Mr. Jackson?"

Mr. Jackson just chuckled, slapped saddle and rode on.

"Wonder what he means?" Toby said, uneasily. "What other kind of records could there be?"

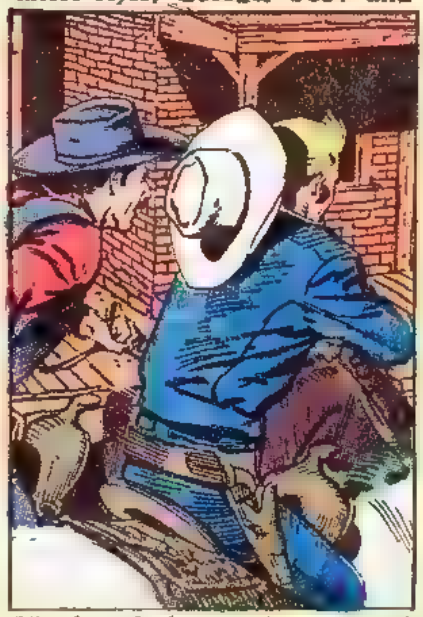
"I don't know," George replied. "You have any idea, Tim?"

Tim shook his head puzzledly.

The three boys rode on until they came to a fork in the road. Tim and Toby lived down one, George down the other. They waved each other good-bye.

Next day, after school, the three boys mounted their horses and rode into the town. The streets had been hung with bunting, a holiday air was evident and citizens strolled the wooden sidewalks dressed in their best. Rannyhans and waddies from every spread in the vicinity were on hand, their chaps and saddles newly cleaned and polished and their rowels and saddle ornaments highly glittering with new gilt.

Dismounting in front of the town hall, newly built in the latest style, George, Toby and



Tim bought lemonade at a stand to one side of the town hall, and waited. Excitement mounted by the minute, and George and Toby stole cautious glances at each other.

All at once, the brass band of the town fire department emerged from the fire house, playing. On the big wide porch of the town hall decorated with flags and bunting, the town council gradually began appearing, as they emerged from the interior of the building where they had been in deliberation.

Mr. Jackson, the schoolteacher was a member of the town council. Glimpsing George, Toby and Tim, he leaned over the railing of the porch and winked.

Now a great crowd had gathered to the strains of the brass band. The Mayor pushed his way forward and stood at the top of the porch stairs, holding a scroll in his hand. A hush fell over the crowd and the band made a final flourish and stopped playing.

"Folks," the mayor began, "the town council has selected a name for the town." He paused; still there was a dead silence, though the tension grew and grew. "Originally, you voters authorized us to call the town after the oldest inhabitant. As it turned out, it looked, at first, like a tossup between the Randolph and Kirk families. But they *weren't* the first American family to live here. The first American family to live here was an Indian tribe known as the Koshones. And they settled here over two hundred years ago!" He smiled and waved the scroll. "So this here town of ours is hereby and forevermore known as Koshone, Nevada!"

As a burst of applause and many shouts of approval split the air, Mr. Jackson leaned over the railing and beckoned to George, Toby and Tim.

"Like I said, boys, county records aren't the only ones there are. There's also the record of history, folklore and books. The Koshones were brave warriors, and the *first* Americans here! Now you boys get home and be proud you live in a real American western town!"

And he smiled, as he watched George, Toby and Tim link arms and stride off toward their mounts.

THE END G-520

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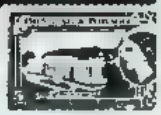

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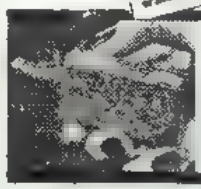

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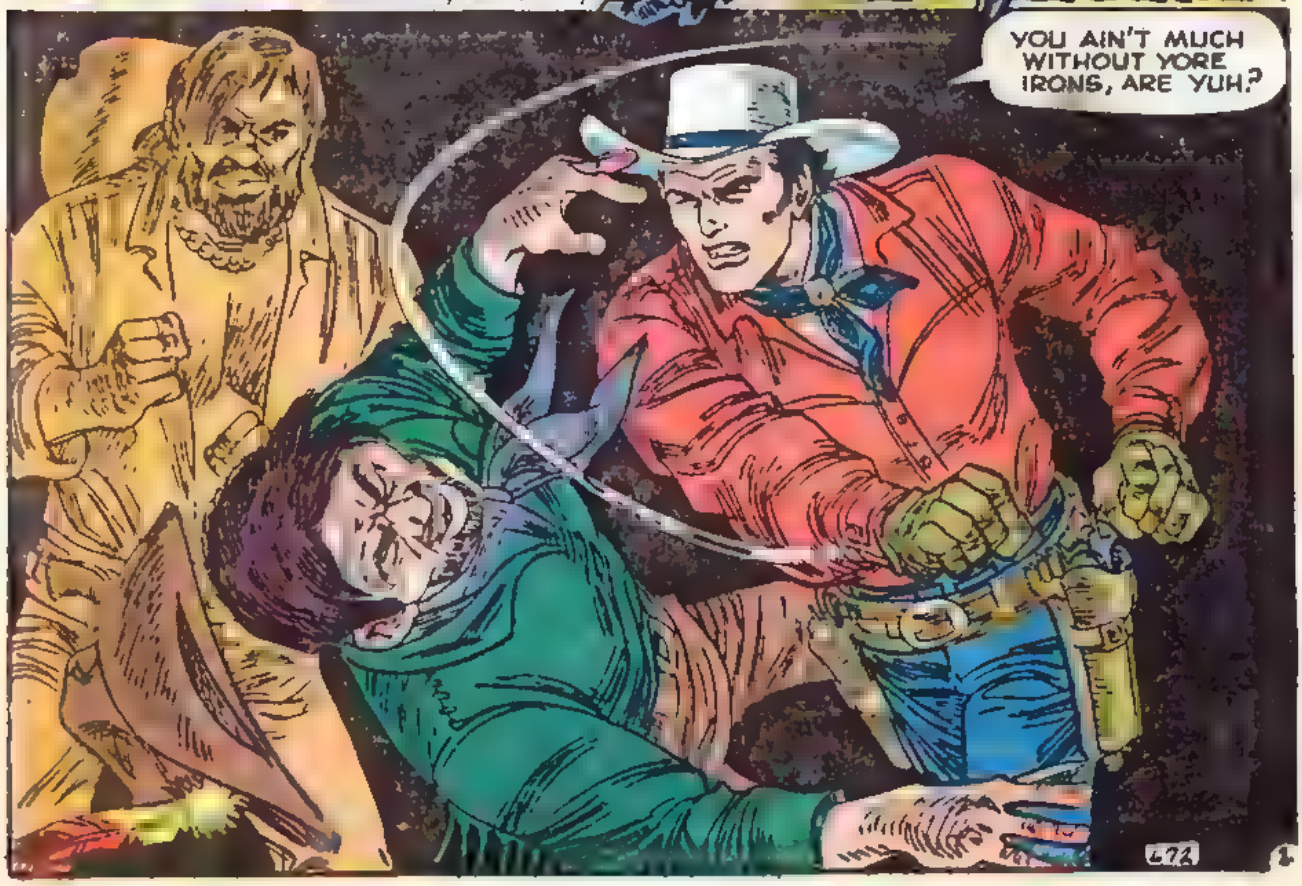
Johnson Smith Co., Dept. 352, Detroit 7, Mich.

THE ODDS WERE TWO TO ONE, BUT THAT DIDN'T STOP FARGO DALTON, THE FASTEST DRAW IN MONTANA!

RETURN OF THE GUNFIGHTER!



NOW I RECKON YUH CAN JOIN YORE BROTHER!
HOLD ON, FARGO! I'LL HANDLE THE ROUGH STUFF IN THIS TOWN!
RECKON I'LL HAVE TO RUN YUH IN FER STARTIN' A FRACAS IN TOWN, FARGO!
YOU LOCO, SHERIFF? THE TWO OF THEM JUMPED ME... IT WUZ SELF-DEFENSE!
THAT'S WHAT YUH ALWAYS SAY... BUT SINCE YOU HIT TOWN, FARGO, THERE'S BEEN NOTHIN BUT BRAWLS AND TROUBLE! NOW COME ALONG PEACEABLE!
WE'LL SETTLE UP WITH YUH LATER, DALTON!
BEFORE ANY MAN IN THE STREET COULD MOVE A MUSCLE, FARGO DALTON'S STILL-SMOKING COLT APPEARED IN HIS HAND... WAVING STEADILY FROM SIDE TO SIDE, COVERING EVERY WIDE-EYED SPECTATOR!
NOBODY'S GONNA LOCK UP FARGO DALTON! STAND BACK... ALL OF YUH! YOU TOO, SHERIFF!
DON'T BE A FOOL, FARGO!
DO YOU KNOW WHAT YORE DOIN'? A NIGHT IN A CELL WON'T HURT YUH NONE... BUT IF YUH DON'T PUT THAT COLT DOWN, YUH'LL BE AN OWLHOOT FOR SURE... NOW, GIVE ME THAT IRON!
I SAID STAND BACK... AND I MEANT IT!

THEN, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS TWENTY-FOUR YEARS, FARGO DALTON'S TRIGGER FINGER SLIPPED... JUST THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF PRESSURE TOO MUCH... AND...

CRACK!

DALTON... YUH FOOL!

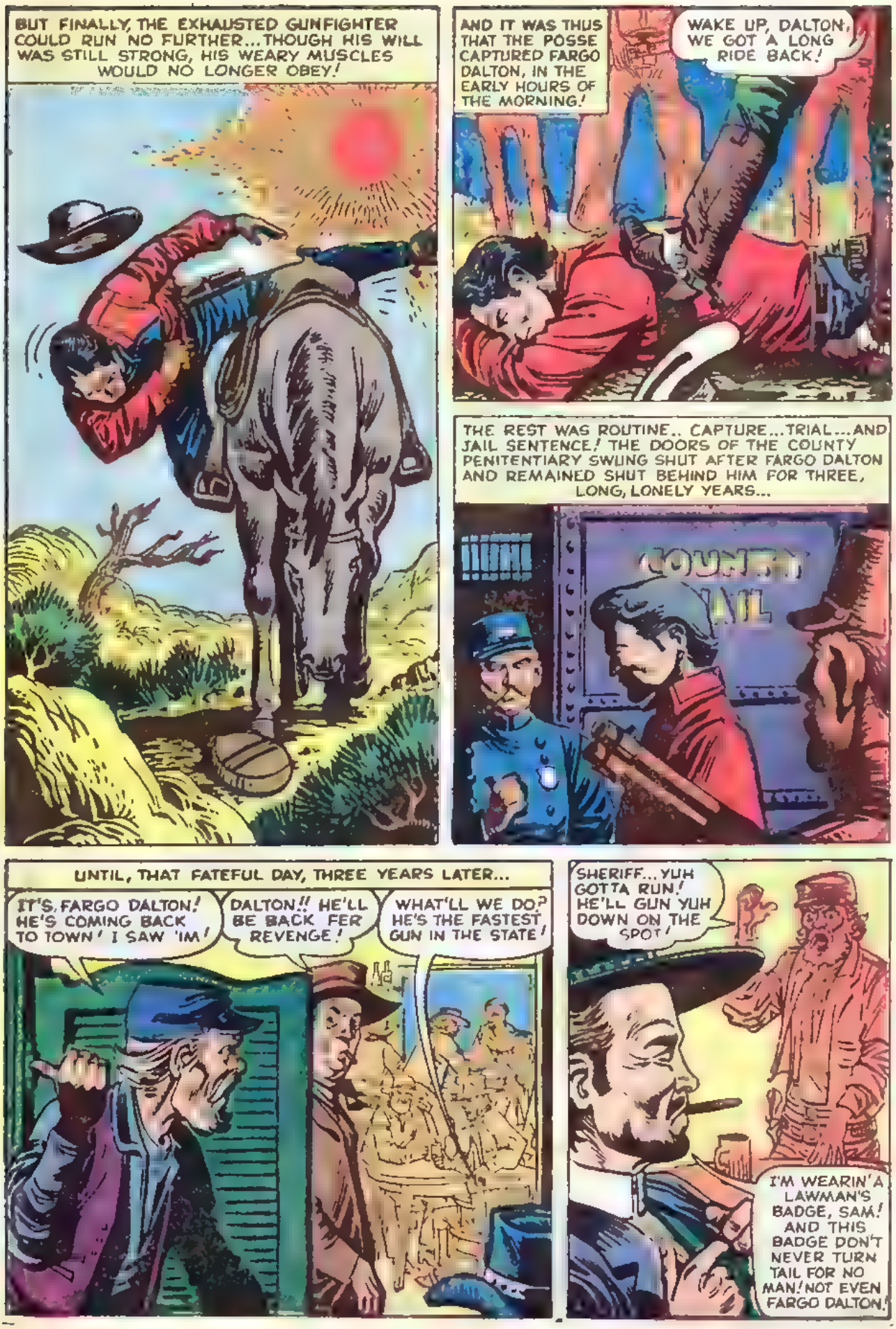
I DIDN'T MEAN.. I ...IT WUZ AN ACCIDENT

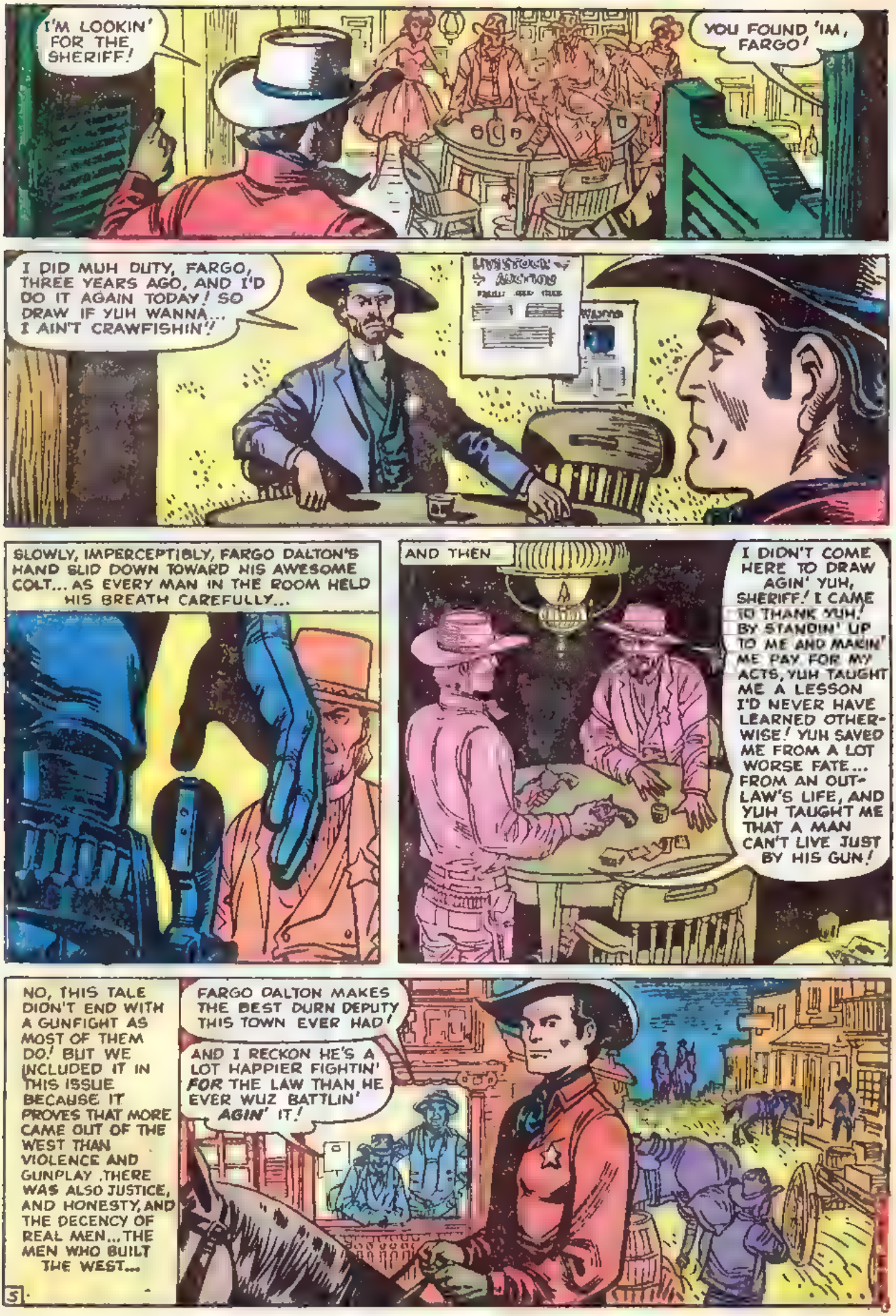
YUH WON'T GIT AWAY WITH THIS, FARGO! YUH WON'T ESCAPE US NOW!

IN A DAZE, PANIC WELLING UP INSIDE HIM LIKE A HOT FLAME, FARGO DALTON LEAPED UPON HIS PONY, WHILE THE CROWD HELD BACK, STILL FEARFUL OF HIS MENACING COLT!

I GOTTA GET OUTA HERE.. GOTTA RUN!

AND RUN HE DID... LIKE A TERRIFIED JACK-RABBIT... MADLY, BLINDLY, BACKTRACKING DIZZILY CROSS-COUNTRY, IN AN EFFORT TO ESCAPE THE ANGRILY PURSUING POSSE...


BUT FINALLY, THE EXHAUSTED GUNFIGHTER COULD RUN NO FURTHER... THOUGH HIS WILL WAS STILL STRONG, HIS WEARY MUSCLES WOULD NO LONGER OBEY!
AND IT WAS THUS THAT THE POSSE CAPTURED FARGO DALTON, IN THE EARLY HOURS OF THE MORNING!
WAKE UP, DALTON, WE GOT A LONG RIDE BACK!
THE REST WAS ROUTINE.. CAPTURE...TRIAL...AND JAIL SENTENCE! THE DOORS OF THE COUNTY PENITENTIARY SWUNG SHUT AFTER FARGO DALTON AND REMAINED SHUT BEHIND HIM FOR THREE, LONG, LONELY YEARS...
UNTIL, THAT FATEFUL DAY, THREE YEARS LATER...
IT'S, FARGO DALTON! HE'S COMING BACK TO TOWN! I SAW 'IM!
DALTON!! HE'LL BE BACK FER REVENGE!
WHAT'LL WE DO? HE'S THE FASTEST GUN IN THE STATE!
SHERIFF... YUH GOTTA RUN! HE'LL GUN YUH DOWN ON THE SPOT!
I'M WEARIN' A LAWMAN'S BADGE, SAM! AND THIS BADGE DON'T NEVER TURN TAIL FOR NO MAN! NOT EVEN FARGO DALTON!


I'M LOOKIN' FOR THE SHERIFF!
YOU FOUND 'IM, FARGO!
I DID MUH DUTY, FARGO, THREE YEARS AGO, AND I'D DO IT AGAIN TODAY! SO DRAW IF YUH WANNA... I AIN'T CRAWFISHIN'!
LIVESTOCK AUCTION
SLOWLY, IMPERCEPTIBLY, FARGO DALTON'S HAND SLID DOWN TOWARD HIS AWESOME COLT... AS EVERY MAN IN THE ROOM HELD HIS BREATH CAREFULLY...
AND THEN
I DIDN'T COME HERE TO DRAW AGIN' YUH, SHERIFF! I CAME TO THANK YUH! BY STANDIN' UP TO ME AND MAKIN' ME PAY FOR MY ACTS, YUH TAUGHT ME A LESSON I'D NEVER HAVE LEARNED OTHERWISE! YUH SAVED ME FROM A LOT WORSE FATE... FROM AN OUTLAW'S LIFE, AND YUH TAUGHT ME THAT A MAN CAN'T LIVE JUST BY HIS GUN!
NO, THIS TALE DIDN'T END WITH A GUNFIGHT AS MOST OF THEM DO! BUT WE INCLUDED IT IN THIS ISSUE BECAUSE IT PROVES THAT MORE CAME OUT OF THE WEST THAN VIOLENCE AND GUNPLAY. THERE WAS ALSO JUSTICE, AND HONESTY, AND THE DECENCY OF REAL MEN... THE MEN WHO BUILT THE WEST...
FARGO DALTON MAKES THE BEST DURN DEPUTY THIS TOWN EVER HAD!
AND I RECKON HE'S A LOT HAPPIER FIGHTIN' FOR THE LAW THAN HE EVER WUZ BATTLIN' AGIN' IT!

A NEW SCIENTIFIC TOY!

NUTTY PUTTY

ONLY $1.00

NUTTY PUTTY... real crazy!!! A liquid solid! Amazing and fun! Roll into a ball, it bounces! Hit with hammer—it shatters! Pull it slowly—it stretches! Press it on a comic book and it steals a perfect impression in color...Leave it alone and it sinks into a tired little puddle. Comes in a leakproof plastic egg...You'll relax with this one—and really have a ball.

It is made of the wonder material your parents have read about in Life, Time, and other magazines. Truly a great new toy. This is the real THING.

BOUNCE IT..

HIT IT..

IT'S GREAT FUN!

MOLD IT...

STRETCH IT...

Order now —Return this rush coupon with your $1.00

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

LUCKY PRODUCTS DEPT. NMD 9
Carle Place, L. I., N. Y.

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City ..... State .....

84 SECRET CARD TRICKS

With Chapter On Sleight Of Hand

This book contains all the best tricks and deceptions with cards, including the latest tricks of all the top magicians. Each is especially picked so that it lends itself to home amusement and amazement. All simply explained. Chapter on sleight of hand is useful in detecting tricks while playing.

012 _____ **35c**

CONDENSED SMOKE POWDER

Simply set off the magic powder, and poof! disappear in a cloud of smoke. Terrific for all magical effects and disappearing acts. Completely harmless. Enough powder for hundreds of uses.

072 _____ **$1.00**

FLY IN ICE CUBE

Will create a sensation when they see this plastic ice cube in a cool drink. It has a real bug inside.

No. 034 _____ Only **35c**

SHRUNKEN HEADS

FANTASTIC! Looks exactly like what jungle head hunters prepare. Something new and startling to hang in your car, or in your room. A horrible and unusual gift in a box.

617 _____ **$1.98**

COLOR CHANGING TIE

Let them complain about your "crazy" colored tie, and presto! it changes right before their eyes to a nice conservative tie. Do it anywhere, anytime! No threads, strings or wires used.

738 _____ **$1.00**

HOT PEPPER GUM

Looks like real gum, but when they taste it, WOW! Burns their mouth, but only like pepper. Package of five sticks.

No. 021 _____ Only **20c**

MUMMY

Place "King Tut" in his casket and watch him lie down. But, when someone else tries to rest him, he mysteriously rises from his grave. It's loads of fun and s-o-o-o mysterious.

724 _____ **75c**

SURE WIN COINS

You get two coins. One is ordinary, the other looks exat, but it has two heads. Do tricks, win friendly bets.

142 _____ Both only **25c**

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BE FIRST IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD TO GET THESE WONDERFUL TOYS

If This Should Happen to You Would You Know This Quick Defense

YOU, TOO, CAN BE TOUGH

Master Jiujitsu and you'll win any fight. This book gives you all the grips, blacks, etc., which are so effective in counter-attacking a bully or hold-up. You don't need big muscles or weight, know-how makes you the sure winner. We also send you FREE book on how to perform strong-man stunts, tear a telephone book in half, etc.

No. 224 _____ **$1.00**

ROTARY TYPE-WRITER

Types Red and Black — Uses Real Ribbon

This rotary typewriter turns out real typing with no previous practice using a ribbon and black and white type. Contains all the letters, numbers and punctuations you need. Has a replica of an actual touch keyboard, too.

203 _____ **3.98**

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NICKELS TO DIMES

Brass cover is placed on four nickels. Spectator removes the cover and four dimes are discovered! Other startling effects performed.

No. 215 _____ **$1.00**

SILVER SKULL RING

Heavy Mexican silver ring with the raised face of skull and inlaid red ruby eyes. Feels good and looks really impressive. Adds heft to your hands.

566 _____ **$1.00**

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

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ITEM #	NAME OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

☐ I enclose _____ in full payment. The Honor House Products Corp. will pay postage.

☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus a few cents postage.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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J. E. SMITH has trained more men for Radio-Television than any other man. OUR 40th YEAR.

America's Fast Growing Industry Offers You Good Pay—Bright Future—Security

I TRAINED THESE MEN

"Started to repair sets six months after enrolling. Earned $12 to $15 a week in spare time."—Adam Kramlik, Jr., Sunneytown, Pennsylvania.

"Up to our necks in Radio-Television work. Four other NRI men work here. Am happy with my work."—Glen Peterson, Bradford, Ont., Canada.

"Am doing Radio and Television Servicing full time. Now have my own shop. I owe my success to N.R.I."—Curtis Stath, Ft. Madison, Iowa.

"Am with WGOC. NRI course can't be beat. No trouble passing 1st class Radio-phone license exam."—Jesse W. Parker, Meridian, Mississippi.

"By the time I graduated I had paid for my course, a car and testing equipment. Can service toughest jobs."—E. J. Streitenberger, New Boston, Ohio.

Training plus opportunity is the PERFECT COMBINATION for job security, good pay, advancement. In good times, the trained man makes the BETTER PAY, GETS PROMOTED. When jobs are scarce, the trained man enjoys GREATER SECURITY. NRI training can help assure you more of the better things of life.

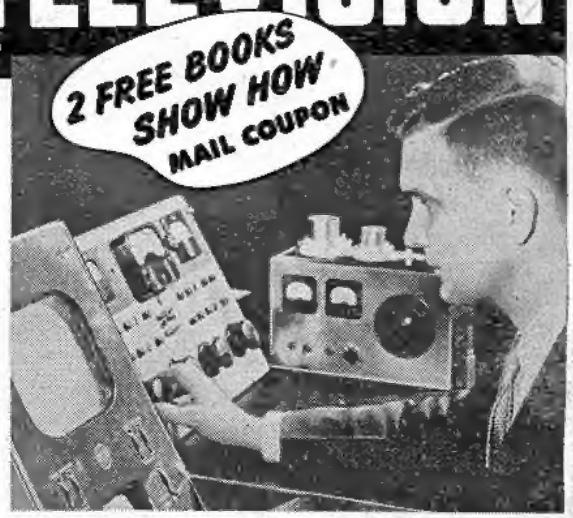
Start Soon to Make $10, $15 a Week Extra Fixing Sets

Keep your job while training. I start sending you special booklets the day you enroll, that show you how to fix sets. Multitester built with parts I send helps you make $10, $15 a week extra fixing sets while training. Many start their own Radio-Television business with spare time earnings.

My Training Is Up-To-Date

You benefit by my 40 years' experience training men at home. Well illustrated lessons give you basic principles you need. Skillfully developed kits of parts I send (see below) "bring to life" things you learn from lessons.

AVAILABLE TO VETERANS UNDER G.I. BILLS



Television Making Good Jobs, Prosperity—Even without Television, Radio is bigger than ever. 115 million home and auto Radios to be serviced. Over 3000 Radio broadcasting stations use operators, technicians, engineers. Government, Aviation, Police, Ship, Micro-wave Relay, Two-Way Radio Communications for buses, taxis, trucks, etc., are important and growing fields. Television is moving ahead fast.

About 200 Television stations are now on the air. Hundreds of others being built. Good TV jobs opening up for Technicians, Operators, etc.

25 million homes now have Television sets. Thousands more are being sold every week. Get a job or have your own business selling, installing, servicing.

You Learn by Practicing with Parts I Send

Nothing takes the place of PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE. That's why NRI training is based on LEARNING BY DOING. You use parts I furnish to build many circuits common to Radio and Television. As part of my Communications Course, you build many things, including low power transmitter shown at left. You put it "on the air," perform procedures required of broadcasting operators. With my Servicing Course you build modern Radio, etc. Use Multitester you build to make money fixing sets. Many students make $10, $15 week extra fixing neighbors' sets in spare time while training. Coupon below will bring book showing other equipment you build. It's all yours to keep.

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Act now to get more of the good things of life. Actual lesson proves my training is practical, thorough. 64-page book shows good job opportunities for you in many fields. Take NRI training for as little as $5 a month. Many graduates make more than total cost of training in two weeks. Mail coupon now. J. E. SMITH, President, National Radio Institute, Dept. 7AM1, Washington 9, D. C. OUR 40TH YEAR.

Good for Both—FREE

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Mail me Sample Lesson and 64-page Book, FREE.
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